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NH Insurance Department to Hold Nov. 6 Annual Public Hearing on Health Care Costs

CONCORD, NH – The New Hampshire Insurance Department will host its annual public hearing on health care costs and payment systems from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. on Friday, November 6, 2015, at the University of New Hampshire School of Law in Concord.

According to state law, the Insurance Commissioner “shall hold an annual public hearing concerning premium rates in the health insurance market and the factors, including health care costs and cost trends, that have contributed to rate increases during the prior year.” This year’s public hearing is based on data and information available in 2014.

“Our hope is that this event serves to foster dialogue and greater understanding among health insurance companies, health care providers, state government, and New Hampshire residents,” said New Hampshire Insurance Commissioner Roger Sevigny.

The health insurance consulting firm Gorman Actuarial will discuss the major findings from the 2014 data submitted by health insurance companies in New Hampshire in preparation for the hearing. Two panels will focus on patient responsibilities and cost sharing, including how the delivery system is responding and insurance companies are structuring benefits. The first, moderated by a health care consumer advocate, will feature health care providers. The second panel will be moderated by the Insurance Department and feature health insurance companies. During lunch, the Department will present updates to the New Hampshire HealthCost website, a health care transparency tool created by the Insurance Department.

The hearing is open to the public, although seating is limited. Live streaming of the event is planned. To register, please email Danielle.Barrick@ins.nh.gov and specify whether you would like to attend in person or via live stream. The full [agenda](#) may be found on the Insurance Department website.

The New Hampshire Insurance Department’s mission is to promote and protect the public good by ensuring the existence of a safe and competitive insurance marketplace through the development and enforcement of the insurance laws of the State of New Hampshire. For more information, visit <http://www.nh.gov/insurance>.

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